

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method for producing a gearset having an axis, comprising the steps of:

producing a first member ~~having~~ including a first surface, and a second surface axially spaced from the first surface;

forming a first set of pairs of axially aligned, angularly spaced holes in the first surface and second surface;

placing, in each of the pairs of holes of the first set, a short pinion shaft ~~having~~ including a short pinion supported thereon, each short pinion being located at a first radial distance from the axis;

forming a second set of axial, angularly spaced holes in the first surface;

placing a long pinion shaft in each hole of the second set and a long pinion on each long pinion shaft;

engaging gear teeth on each long pinion with gear teeth on two short pinions located angularly between each long pinion;

forming a second member ~~having~~ including a third set of holes, each hole aligned with a hole of the second set;

placing the second member such that each long pinion shaft fits in a hole of the second set; and

securing the first and second members mutually.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
securing the first member to a first pinion shaft.

3. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of forming a first set of pairs of axially aligned, angularly spaced holes, further comprises:

locating each hole of the first set substantially equally spaced angularly about an axis.

4. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein:

the step of forming a first set of pairs of axially aligned, angularly spaced holes, further comprises locating each hole of the first set substantially equally spaced angularly about an axis; and

the step of forming a second set of axial, angularly spaced holes in the first surface, further comprises locating each hole of the second set substantially equally spaced angularly about the axis and located angularly between the hole pairs of the first set.

5. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of placing a short pinion shaft ~~having~~ including a short pinion supported thereon, further comprises:

locating each short pinion on a short pinion shaft between the first surface and second surface.

6. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of securing the first and second members mutually, further comprises:

securing a first end of a long pinion shaft to the first member surface;
and

securing a second end of the long pinion shaft to the second member.

7. (cancelled)

8. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of placing a short pinion shaft in each of the pairs of holes of the first set, further comprises:

providing on the short pinion shafts a length portion that extends through the second surface toward the second member; and

using the length portion to guide the placement of the second member such that each long pinion shaft fits in a hole of the second set.

9. (currently amended) A method for producing a gearset having an axis, comprising the steps of:

producing a first member ~~having~~including a first set of axially directed, angularly spaced holes, ~~and~~ a second set of axially directed, angularly spaced holes, a third set of axially directed, angularly spaced holes, each hole of the third set aligned with a hole of the first set and spaced axially therefrom, and an axial pocket aligned with each hole of the second set;

placing, in the aligned holes of the first set and third set, a short pinion shaft ~~having~~including a short pinion supported thereon, each short pinion being located at a first radial distance from the axis;

placing a long pinion shaft in each hole of the second set;

inserting axially through each pocket a long pinion onto each a corresponding long pinion shaft;

~~engaging gear teeth on each long pinion with gear teeth on two short pinions that are located angularly between each long pinion;~~

engaging gear teeth on a first long pinion with gear teeth on a first short pinion and a second short pinion, said first short pinion engaged with a second long pinion, said third short pinion engaged with a third long pinion;

forming a second member ~~having~~including a fourth set of holes, each hole aligned with a hole of the second set;

placing the second member such that each long pinion shaft fits in a hole of the fourth set; and

securing the first and second members mutually.

10. (cancelled)

11. (original) The method of claim 9, wherein the step of placing a short pinion shaft in each of the aligned holes of the first set and third set, further comprises:

providing on the short pinion shafts a length portion that extends through the second surface toward the second member; and

using the length portion to guide the placement of the second member such that each long pinion shaft fits in a hole of the fourth set.

12. (original) The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of: securing the first member to a first pinion shaft at a hole of the first set.

13. (original) The method of claim 9, wherein the step of forming a first set of pairs of axially aligned, angularly spaced holes, further comprises:

locating each hole of the first set substantially equally spaced angularly about an axis.

14. (original) The method of claim 9, wherein:

the step of forming a first set of pairs of axially aligned, angularly spaced holes, further comprises locating each hole of the first set substantially equally spaced angularly about an axis; and

the step of forming a second set of axial, angularly spaced holes, further comprises locating each hole of the second set substantially equally spaced angularly about the axis and located angularly between mutually aligned holes of the first set and third set.

15. (currently amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the step of placing a short pinion shaft ~~having~~ including a short pinion supported thereon, further comprises:

locating each short pinion on a short pinion shaft between the first surface and second surface.

16. (original) The method of claim 9, wherein the step of securing the first and second members mutually, further comprises:

securing a first end of a long pinion shaft to the first member surface;
and
securing a second end of the long pinion shaft to the second member.